
	<h2 style="text-align: center;">Vehicle Idling</h2>
<p>Approved:</p> 	<p>Supercedes:</p> <p>Effective: January 27, 2009</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 1 of 2</p>

The City of Duluth is committed to the goals of improving air quality, operating efficiently and effectively, and leading by example to demonstrate that individuals, businesses and communities can take tangible steps toward meeting these goals.

Unnecessary combustion engine idling impacts air quality and respiratory health, increases operational costs, and wastes vehicle fuel. The City has determined that unnecessary idling of the City's fleet can waste approximately one gallon of fuel per hour for diesel vehicles and three-quarters of a gallon of fuel per hour for automobiles. In addition, vehicle idling can result in wear and tear on engines and cause premature corrosion damage to exhaust piping and mufflers.

This policy has been developed in an effort to improve air quality and obtain significant savings in fuel and operating costs, as well as operating in an effective and efficient manner.

Definitions

1. **Driver**: any person who drives, operates, or is in actual physical control of a vehicle
2. **Emergency**: a sudden, urgent and unforeseen occurrence
3. **Equipment Operator**: any person who is in actual physical control of a piece of off-road equipment.
4. **Idling**: parking a vehicle and keeping it running while it is not operational or performing a job function.
5. **Official Traffic Control Device**: any sign, signal, marking or device placed or erected by authority of a public body or official having jurisdiction, for the purpose of regulating, warning or guiding traffic.
6. **Off-Road Equipment**: all non-road equipment that does not require registration or license by the Department of Motor Vehicles.
7. **Operational Activities**: traffic stop, motorist assist, accident, traffic direction, monitoring traffic, surveillance, working stationary radar.
8. **Vehicle**: any on-road, self-propelled vehicle that is required to be registered and have a license plate by the Department of Motor Vehicles.
9. **Warm-up Time**: the time needed for a vehicle to be at an operational temperature.

Procedure

1. A driver of a City of Duluth vehicle must:
 - A. Turn off the engine upon stopping at a destination; and
 - B. Not allow an engine to idle at any location for more than five minutes; and
 - C. Remove the keys from the ignition at all times that the engine is off.
2. An equipment operator must:
 - A. Turn off the engine when the attendant is on breaks and lunch; and
 - B. Not allow an engine to idle at any location for more than five minutes; and
 - C. Remove the keys from the ignition at all times that the engine is off.

Idling is not permitted solely for the comfort of the driver or passengers (See exemption 5 below)

Exemptions

The idling policy does not apply to the following circumstances:

1. When necessary for official traffic control device or signal, or traffic conditions such as stopped in line of traffic, at a railroad crossing, at a construction zone, or at the direction of a police officer.
2. An emergency vehicle at scenes where lights, Power Take Offs and/or other accessories are needed to accomplish the mission.
3. Police vehicles working traffic enforcement.
4. When necessary for police and fire vehicles while engaged in operational activities, including training.
5. When necessary to operate defrosters, heaters, air conditioners or other equipment in the event of a safety or health emergency, or the vehicle has equipment that is temperature sensitive and would be compromised if the vehicle were not maintained at an adequate temperature, but not solely for the comfort of the driver or passengers.
6. Mobile work vehicles while they are in the course of being used for their basic function.
7. When necessary to power auxiliary equipment other than a heater or air conditioner; i.e., hoist, lift, safety lighting.
8. Vehicles where idling is required as part of the repair process or to prepare the vehicle for service.
9. When necessary to cool down a turbo-charged heavy-duty vehicle in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendation.
10. To thaw out snow and ice from a vehicle that has been sitting outside, or when the outside temperature is cold enough to prohibit shutting off the machine or equipment because hydraulics will be damaged (i.e., pumps, motors).